



Sound Steps

Education Engineering Enforcement for Montgomery County Communities

Montgomery County Department of Transportation
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/walk

Safe Routes to School News

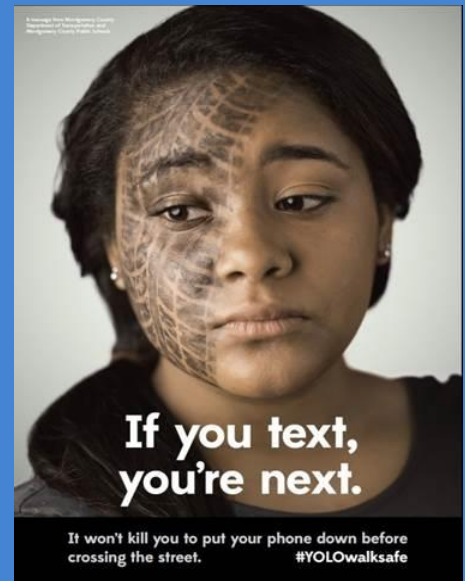
March 2016

STOP.LOOK.LISTEN

Emoticon Pedestrian Safety PSA

Since the launch of the Walk Your Way Program and the YOLO High School Pedestrian Safety Campaign, high schools around the County have done a great job creating, designing and implementing their own pedestrian safety campaigns. They have held assemblies, organized pedestrian safety rallies, created skits/performances focused on pedestrian safety messages, had students sign the YOLO banner, etc. Hopefully this spring your school is planning to do something again or perhaps you are planning something for the first time. Either way, to help you kick off your event(s), MCDOT has developed an emoticon PSA that you can share at your school! Please let us know what your school is doing to spread the word about pedestrian safety. And if you need ideas, help, suggestions, etc. please do not hesitate to contact Nadji Kirby, SRTS Coordinator at nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov or 240-777-7169. To view the new emoticon PSA [click here!](#) For more information about the YOLO Campaign visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/safety.

More inside!



yolo
You only live once.

Bike to School Day – May 4, 2016

Mark your calendars and strap on your helmet! Bike to School Day is Wednesday, May 4!

Schools around the county are encouraged to join schools across the country to celebrate National Bike to School Day 2016. Bike to School Day events raise awareness of the need to create safer routes for bicycling and walking and emphasize the importance of issues such as increasing physical activity among children, pedestrian safety, reducing traffic congestion and concern for the environment. The events build connections between families, schools and the broader community. Your school community can do a ride, hold an assembly about bike safety, show videos on your morning announcements, etc. You can do what works best for your school!

For planning ideas and to register your school to participate please visit www.walkbiketoschool.org.



Bike Safety Education Certification Seminar

The Montgomery County Safe Kids Coalition has acquired a bike trailer for the purpose of offering county-wide bike safety education using the Bike Rodeo model.

Anyone that would like to use the trailer, free of charge, to conduct bike safety education at their school must complete a training session to become certified. The spring certification training is scheduled for Monday, March 14 from 9:00 am to 12:00. It will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, in the Hydrangea Room.

A Bike Rodeo will follow at Piney Branch Elementary School, 7510 Maple Avenue from 1:25 - 2:10. You must RSVP to Nadji Kirby, nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov or 240-777-7163 by Wednesday, March 9, 2016.



Welcome!

This newsletter contains information regarding the Safe Routes to School program, pedestrian and bicycle safety topics, engineering highlights, enforcement, etc. It is sent to school administrators, teachers, parents, volunteers, and other interested parties. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you feel would be interested or email me their address and I can add them to the list, nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Nadji Kirby, Editor
MCDOT Division of Traffic Engineering and Operations

Safe Kids Day!

Around the world, a million children die each year from preventable injuries. Millions more are injured in ways that can affect them for a lifetime. In fact, preventable injuries are the number one cause of death for children in the United States. Safe Kids Day is an opportunity to raise awareness and resources to celebrate kids, prevent injuries and save lives!

The Montgomery County Safe Kids Coalition will host their annual Safe Kids Day event on **Saturday, April 30th from 10am-12:30pm** so mark your calendars! This event will be held in partnership with the YMCA Youth and Family Services Healthy Kids Day.

This fun family event will celebrate kids and help families learn simple things they can do to keep kids safe. The event is presented by Nationwide® and with support from Johnson & Johnson, FedEx, Chevrolet, Kidde and Tide. At the event there will be activities focused on nutrition and health, bike safety, pedestrian safety, home safety, fire safety, water safety, sports safety, child passenger safety and teen driving.

If you have any questions, contact Nadji Kirby, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, for more information at nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov or by phone at 240-777-7169. You can also visit the Montgomery County Safe Kids website at www.safekidsmoco.org.

**SAFE
K:DS**
MONTGOMERY
COUNTY



Annual Takoma Park SRTS 5k Challenge – May 1, 2016

The Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5k Challenge promises to be bigger and better than ever for first time 5k runners and 5 year veterans. The TKPK5K race committee is committed to the highest standards for safety and fun. The race is being held to promote Safe Routes to School, to spend a great day with the community enjoying a family friendly, healthy activity and to raise funds for the Parent Teacher Associations at four area elementary schools: Takoma Park ES, Piney Branch ES, Rolling Terrace ES, East Silver Spring ES and Takoma Park Middle School. The funds are used for programs that focus on walking for health and bike/pedestrian safety. For more information and to register for the race go to <http://www.tkpk5k.com/>.

If you have any questions, contact Lucy Neher, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, City of Takoma Park, at lucyn@takomaparkmd.gov or by phone at 301-891-7235.



Safe Routes to School in Montgomery County

Targeted Education and Outreach Programs

Montgomery County's Safe Routes to School program provides safe and active walking and bicycling to and from school. It provides an opportunity to make walking and bicycling safer and more accessible for children, including those with disabilities, as well as to increase the number of children who chose to walk and bike. On a broader level Safe Routes to School can enhance children's health and well-being, ease traffic congestion near schools, improve air quality, and improve community member's overall quality of life.

Montgomery County's Safe Routes to School program is led by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and is supported by the Montgomery County Police Department, Montgomery County Fire Rescue Service, Maryland State Highway Administration, and other County and State agencies working to improve student safety. We work collaboratively with schools to develop creative solutions for school related traffic problems.



Montgomery County Department of Transportation – Safe Routes to School

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